

Executive Member for Health & Wellbeing 18 October 2018

Decision to be taken on or after 26 October 2018

Key Decision [Yes/No] Ward(s) Affected: All

Adur Community Grants Allocation of Funds for 2018/19

Report by the Director for Communities

Executive Summary

1. Purpose

This report requests the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing to consider the allocation of the 2018/19 Adur Community Grants Budget.

This is the second round of the grants - the deadline for applications was 28th September 2018. There were five applications received, totalling £15,000.

2. Recommendations

The Council Officer responsible for Adur Community Grants makes a recommendation on which groups should be funded. The final decision lies with Adur District Council's Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing.

3. Context

- 3.1. Adur has a vibrant and diverse community and voluntary sector; hundreds of charities and groups help Adur residents to prosper, thrive, be healthy and happy. The majority of these groups are running on no income and hugely dependent on the dedication, passion and time of fantastic volunteers. The aim of Adur Community Grants is to provide financial and non-monetary support to such groups, enabling them to try something new or continue a much-needed service locally.
- 3.2. Adur Community Grants have been around for over ten years and have given in excess of £600,000 to around 200 groups. In April 2017, the criteria for Adur Community Grants was reviewed and realigned to ensure that it met both the strategic priorities of the Council in 'Platforms for our Places' and aims of the Communities and Wellbeing Team as evidenced in the 'Intelligence & Evidence Framework'.
- 3.3. There is no legal duty or obligation for the Council to provide financial, or other support to Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprises (VCSE). Adur Council highly values this sector and is proud to still be able to offer Community Grants. Additionally, the Council also contracts VCSEs to deliver specific projects or services, and offers discretionary rate relief and subsidised rents to groups.
- 3.4. Adur Community Grants have not been immune to Council-wide budget reviews and reductions. In 2018/19 Adur Community Grants reduced its available budget from £51,141 to £40,000. There has also been an amendment to the last report which stated that £10,000 would be allocated to Guild Care for social isolation work.
- 3.5. Additionally, Adur Community Grants will now include the income from Textile Recycling in Adur which previously was distributed to local charities by Adur District Council's Chair. The income available to date is £1,610.75 which is from three bins in Adur. Wider work is ongoing to increase the income from this stream.
- 3.6. <u>Community Works</u>, the infrastructure support organisation who supports locally VCSEs continues to play a role in supporting groups particularly in fundraising and recommended the fund to a few of the groups.
- 3.7. Grants allocation is a changing landscape locally. West Sussex County Council have recently started using Space Hive to create the '<u>West Sussex</u>

<u>Crowd</u>'. Groups can crowdfund here and make an application to County Local Committees to financially support. This is gaining momentum, with seven Adur groups using the site so far - a mixture of new and well established organisations.

4. Issues for consideration

4.1. Please refer to **Appendix 1** for a summary of the groups requesting funding and links to their websites providing additional information.

| Application one | Shoreham Light Parade |
|------------------------|--|
| Amount requested | £1,500 |
| Officer recommendation | Fully fund £1,500.00 |
| Commentary | This is a new event which is accessible and inclusive to local residents and wider. The event is run on a shoestring and by a team of hardworking volunteers and this contribution will go a long way to support this venture. |

| Application one | CYCALL |
|------------------------|---|
| Amount requested | £1,000 |
| Officer recommendation | Fully fund £1,000.00 |
| Commentary | Subject to an upcoming visit, the recommendation is to support this new project. The project targets key priorities of the grants - 2 increasing activity for children and adults 3 encouraging teenagers to be fit and healthy, 4 supporting our older residents and 5 reducing loneliness of all ages. |

| Application one | Shoreham Air Training Corps |
|------------------------|--|
| Amount requested | £2,500 |
| Officer recommendation | Not fund |
| Commentary | There is no denying that the group is important for the education and wellbeing of young people but the project doesn't reach many of our more vulnerable young people or the wider priorities for the grants. |

| Application one | Fishersgate Youth Club |
|------------------------|--|
| Amount requested | £5,000 |
| Officer recommendation | Fund £5,000 |
| Commentary | Sussex Clubs for Young People are working incredibly hard in a high area of deprivation, meeting key priority 3 which encourages young adults to learn new skills, activities or interests that keeps them safe, fit and healthy - this will include prevention work around sexual health, drugs and alcohol use and the risk of weapons. |

| Application one | Shoreham Sailing Club |
|------------------------|---|
| Amount requested | £5,000 |
| Officer recommendation | Not-fund |
| Commentary | It is well understood how important the Committee Boat would be for the club, however, the project doesn't reach enough of our more vulnerable young people or the wider priorities for the grants. Community Works will be well-placed to help this great organisation to apply for regional and national funding pots, for example, the Rampion Fund. |

5. Engagement and Communication

- 5.1. The completed application forms were initially reviewed by the Communities and Third Sector Lead against the priorities and using local knowledge and experience. They were then shared with colleagues in the Communities and Wellbeing Team for feedback. In some instances, some advice was sought from Community Works, the Council's contracted Infrastructure Support Organisation. Additionally, there is a summary of grant funding that partners update, and this was referred to check for double-funding and to see what groups may have received in total over the last few years.
- 5.2. The engagement and communication with groups interested and applying for the grants has been open and transparent. All information is clear and kept up to date on the Councils' website and communication is maintained through the process with groups mainly via email but also by phone.
- 5.3. Adur Community Grants were advertised on the Councils' website, on social media, in local press, local networks, via elected Members and through Community Works and all their communication channels.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The total budget available for Adur Community Grants at the start of the financial year is £40,000. This is an amendment from the previous report which stated £30.000. Additionally, there is income of £1,610.75 from the the textile recycling banks. The total start budget was therefore £41,610.75.
- 6.2. A total of £14,300 was allocated in round one. At the time of writing, four groups have not yet claimed their money but is in hand (totalling £7,300).
- 6.3. If the Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing agrees the recommended funding suggested by the Officer, this would total £7,500 and would leave a remaining budget of £19,810.75 for the remainder of the year.

7. Legal Implications

7.1. Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 provides that if Council is considering expenditure for which there is no other statutory power then a Local Authority may incur expenditure which in their opinion is in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, their area or any part of it or all or some of their inhabitants. The Council must ensure that the direct benefit

accruing to its area or residents is commensurate with the expenditure incurred.

- 7.2. There is no legal obligation on the Council to provide financial or other assistance to the voluntary and community sector. However, the Council recognise the vital part played by voluntary groups in the life of the District. The Council does have the power to provide financial assistance to the sector under Section 1 Localism Act 2011 which provides that the Council have the power to do anything that individuals generally may do, providing no other legislation exists to prevent it.
- 7.3. Section 111 Local Government Act 1972 provides that the Council shall have power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
- 7.4. A grant agreement will be entered into by each successful group, with the Council, before any money is released.

Background Papers

Adur Community Grants <u>Priorities and Criteria</u> <u>Platforms for our Places</u> Communities and Wellbeing Team's Evidence and Intelligence Framework

Officer Contact Details

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Sustainability & Risk Assessment

Sustainability has been considered and no issues identified. In terms of a risk assessment and ensuring groups are operating in a safe way, successful groups sign a contract before the money is released. This is the contract they return:

- 1. No other funding has already been obtained to deliver this specific project.
- 2. The grant will only be used for the project described on the application form and subject to the stipulated conditions. Any further changes must be agreed by Adur District Council (ADC) before proceeding.
- 3. The project will start within six months of receipt of the grant and any unused money will be returned to ADC.
- 4. We will comply with all laws regulating the way we operate, the activities we undertake, the staff we employ and the goods we buy.
- 5. We have a **Safeguarding Policy** and relevant **Insurance** to carry out the project and will send copies of these to ADC. We will ensure that staff and volunteers have a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check if required.
- 6. We will act in a fair and open manner and without discrimination at all times.
- 7. We understand that the grant is made inclusive of VAT.
- 8. We accept that ADC may need to share information about the grant under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. ADC also has the right to publicise the grant and related project as they see fit. We will acknowledge ADC as a funder and use ADCs logo if appropriate.
- 9. ADC has the right to withdraw the grant at any time. For example, if the conditions or detail in the application form aren't met, if any law is broken in the delivery of the project and if the Council's name or reputation is brought into disrepute.
- 10. We will provide an evaluation within one month of the project end date.

1. Economic

Adur Community Grants have been re-aligned to the Council's priorities under Platforms for our Places and the Communities and Wellbeing Team's Intelligence and Evidence Framework, and plays a part in the helping the area reach its economic potential by support the VCSEs.

2. Social

2.1. Social Value

Funding these groups has a big social impact, often helping to reach the hardest or most vulnerable residents.

2.2 Equality Issues

In the funding criteria, it is stipulated that no group will discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability, age, or sexual orientation.

2.3 Community Safety Issues (Section 17)

Matter considered and no issues identified.

2.4 Human Rights Issues

Matter considered and no issues identified.

3. Environmental

Matter considered and no issues identified.

4. Governance

Successfully funded organisations will be expected to self-govern but through the contract that must be signed before the funds are released, the Council protects itself by asking groups to have insurance, safeguarding policies and the ability to withdraw the grant if if any law is broken in the delivery of the project and if the Council's name or reputation is brought into disrepute.

Appendix One

2018/19 Round two - projects applying for funding:

1. Application one - <u>Shoreham Light Parade</u>

£1,500 towards the costs of this new event on 24th Nov 2018 which includes printing, materials, insurances and volunteer costs. The group will be going into schools and care settings to make the lanterns, ending with a light parade through Shoreham-by-Sea. This will cover the total cost of the project.

2. Application two - CYCALL

 \pounds 1,000 towards the purchase of adapted cycling equipment for disabled people and those with health issues that might prevent them from using a standard bike. The project encourages healthier physical ability for the person cycling and reduces social isolation for those being transported. This is a new venture in Adur. The total cost is \pounds 20,000.

3. Application three - <u>Shoreham Air Training Corps (1440 squadron)</u>

£2,500 to part-fund the build and delivery of a fully functional flight simulator for use by the cadets. This will help introduce the basic concepts and principles of flight to the young people in the squadron. The total cost is £5,000.

4. Application four - Fishersgate Youth Club

£5,000 to cover the full costs of salaries, venue hire, resources and activities for young people in Eastbrook. The project is building on their existing provision for 11-16 year olds in this area. The total cost is £8,806.

5. Application five - <u>Shoreham Sailing Club</u>

£5,000 to part-fund the purchase of a new Committee Boat. Amongst many areas, this will aid training in race management, extend the time older people can remain active and improve safety for sailors on the water. The total cost is £31,748.

No applications were deferred from round one.
